

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for logging a new user into a data processing device with an operating system and an application program, comprising the sequential steps of:
 - in a first step, determining authentication data for authenticating a user;
 - defining an identity and access rights depending on the authentication data;
 - and
 - providing access, depending on the defined access rights, for at least one of the application program and sensitive data;
 - the method being independent of restarting the operating system or the application program.
2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - displaying a user interface, depending on the defined access rights;
 - performing a user switch process step that causes the method to begin again at the first step, content of a user interface remaining unchanged until access rights have been defined again.
3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the content of the user interface is reduced if the renewed definition of access rights defines a more limited scope than the previous definition allowed.
4. The method according to claim 3, further comprising:
 - generating a warning message indicating a reduction in content and that the user has an opportunity to begin the method at the first step again before the reduction.
5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

displaying a user interface in accordance with the access rights that are defined;

deleting, by a User Logout procedure, content of a user interface; and starting the method from the first step again.

6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
logging all access to the application program and all access to the sensitive data together with the respectively defined identity.
7. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
activating a screen saver by a defined condition to make a user interface illegible; and
beginning the method from the first step again.
8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the defined condition is some amount of elapsed time.
9. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
blocking all access rights based upon a failed attempt to authenticate a user in the first step.
10. A computer program that is configured to run on a data processing device to run the method according to claim 1.
11. A data storage media having a program is stored upon it which can work with a data processing device to run the method according to claim 1.